



European Commission



Directorate General for Interpretation - Direction générale de l'interprétation - Generaldirektion Dolmetschen

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# Simultaneous consecutive revisited

**Michele Ferrari (MF), inventor of the system, interviews Miriam Hamidi (MH), author of Masters thesis on simultaneous consecutive.**



*Michele Ferrari (A14-IT), inventor of the system (Photo: J.L. Peysen—SCIC-02)*

“tive”.

When I eventually had to find a topic for my Master’s thesis in interpreting, my thesis supervisor, M. Pöchhacker, suggested I examine the technology-assisted consecutive, since no academic research had been done so far on this subject, especially not for the language pair French-German. He gave me your articles which we used as a starting point for designing our experiment. It was at that time, in February 2005 I think, that I first called you to get more information about your trials and advice for the implementation.

**MF : How did you go about defining a methodology for a serious study on the subject?**

**MH :** Since the recruitment of experienced conference interpreters for the language pair French-German proved to be more difficult than expected, we had to be very flexible concerning the design and methodology. We first sought to enroll enough interpreters to work with control groups. But several colleagues were unable to take part due to time constraints, although they had originally expressed an interest in participating. That’s why we had to change the design at very short notice and work with “just” three university-trained professional interpreters.

**MF : Could you briefly summarize your study and its conclusions?**

**MH :** The study was conducted at the Vienna Centre for Translation Studies and focused on three main questions: Does technology-assisted consecutive interpreting provide better results in terms of quality than the conventional consecutive method? Is the audience more responsive to the new consecutive technique than to the traditional one? And does the simultaneous consecutive have the potential to prevail as an interpreting method on its own? We therefore asked the three professional subjects to interpret two comparable speeches of slightly less than ten minutes (each in two takes), delivering the first one in the conventional consecutive mode and the second one with the aid of a digital voice recorder.

To ensure the same conditions for all participating subjects, the two speeches were filmed and the recordings subsequently shown as source material in three separate experimental

*(Continued on page 2)*

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Certification  
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**MF : How did you become interested in the subject of the simultaneous consecutive and how did you become aware of its existence?**

**MH :** I first heard of it during my studies in a French consecutive class. This must have been in 2003 or 2004, when our teacher, who always went to interpreting assignments with a MiniDisc Player in her handbag to record as much authentic source material as possible for her students, thought of the possibility of using it to perform a simultaneous interpretation in a consecutive setting. What I did not know by that time was that her idea was based on the experiment you referred to in the SCICNews. She was convinced that the use of electronic devices in interpreting situations “could be the end of the traditional consecu-

(Continued from page 1)

sessions, which took place in late June 2005. At the end of each session, a debriefing interview was conducted with the respective interpreter on the basis of seven prepared questions relating to her/his professional experience and preferred working mode as well as her/his own assessment of the two performances and the new technique.

Since we also attached great importance to audience response, we presented the video recordings of the interpretations to a sample of nine people with highly diverse profiles and asked them to judge the performances by filling in an eight-page questionnaire. They were asked to indicate whether they had been able to follow the German interpretation of the original French speech very well, well, with some difficulty, badly or very badly and could also add comments on their assessment. The questionnaire also contained three comprehension questions and seven-point rating scales for the six quality criteria: fluency of delivery, clarity and cohesion (in the sense of source-target correspondence), quality of expression, intonation and emphasis, contact with audience as well as confidence and professionalism.

The main findings of the study can be summarized as follows: the majority of the audience agreed the simultaneous consecutive interpreting performances were more fluent and much livelier.

These subjective impressions could also be confirmed by the data based on the transcriptions of the interpreters' German translations. They turned out to contain on the average less pauses and hesitations, especially the bothering ones within grammatical structures or words, and were, quite surprisingly, shorter than the French original. In two out of three cases they also featured less omissions, additions, mistranslations and linguistic errors.

The video recording of the interpreters' performance revealed, however, that the simultaneous consecutive interpreting mode is not very communicative. One interpreter did not look up even once and the two others made only very short instances of eye contact with the audience and performed quite

curious gestures while interpreting.

**MF : Did you find any opposition to the technique and to the relevance of your work from interpreters and academic staff respectively?**

**MH :** The interpreters who took part in the study were quite comfortable with the technology-assisted consecutive mode and thus rather favourable to it. They were also very interested in the findings of the study. This can also be said of the student colleagues to whom I talked about it.

Some of the academic staff and two of the interpreters I asked to participate, however, were strictly opposed to the technique or found it ridiculous. They could not imagine working with a digital device and did not see any advantage at all.

**MF : What reactions to your conclusions did you get from colleagues?**

**MH :** Those to whom I told about the study were positively surprised. Some would appreciate hearing more about the new technique, others find it good but still do not consider it as a reason to use technology equipment for consecutive interpreting. I think that it may be difficult to promote the simultaneous consecutive without well-founded large-scale studies and a multitude of proven experiences in real settings.

**MF : Are you planning to do any further work on the subject?**

**MH :** I would love to do further research on this topic, but I am just starting to work as an interpreter and have unfortunately other priorities at the moment. I would nevertheless enjoy being in touch with other people worldwide who may have tested similar methods.

It could be interesting to compare results and carry out more elaborate experiments taking into account variables such as text type, input speed, language pair or direction of translation. I am sure that M. Pöchlhammer will encourage his students to continue research in this field and would I definitely be the first to volunteer as a test person for any comparison session! ◆

Source: Michele Ferrari (A14-IT)

## Le bus gratuit à Luxembourg lors de missions

**Après les vélos, le bus !**

Le personnel de la Commission à Luxembourg pourra utiliser les lignes de bus 5, 7 et 18 sur présentation de leur carte de service, à compter du 1er février 2007.

conditions de mobilité compte des spécificités et de la stratégie de la ville de Luxembourg. Il notamment une

Suite à l'article paru dans le supplément détachable de Commission en Direct du 19-25 janvier 2007 "Après les vélos, le bus!" ([http://www.cc.cec/home/life/cid/html/427\\_12.pdf](http://www.cc.cec/home/life/cid/html/427_12.pdf)), nous avons le plaisir de vous communiquer que les fonctionnaires de la Commission à Bruxelles qui sont en mission à Luxembourg peuvent aussi utiliser les lignes de **bus 5, 7 et 18** sur présentation de la carte de service. ◆

Source Dana Foltynova, OIL/2, Services intérieurs et transports



## Priorité de droite : *nouvelles règles* Voorrang van rechts: *nieuwe regels*

Les règles relatives à la priorité de droite changent le 1er mars 2007.

La règle selon laquelle le conducteur qui a priorité perd celle-ci lorsqu'il remet son véhicule en mouvement après s'être arrêté est abrogée.

L'obligation de venir "régulièrement" de la droite afin de pouvoir bénéficier de la priorité de droite est supprimée. La notion "régulièrement" est trop vague et mène à une insécurité juridique. Il est explicitement déterminé que le conducteur qui vient d'un sens de circulation interdit n'a pas la priorité de droite.

Les cyclistes qui viennent d'une rue à sens unique limité, indiqué par le panneau additionnel M2, bénéficient évidemment de la priorité de droite puisqu'ils ne viennent pas d'un sens de circulation qui leur est interdit. Il en va de même pour les conducteurs de cyclomoteurs à deux roues de classe A qui viennent d'une rue à sens unique limité, indiqué par le panneau additionnel M3.

Celui qui, à un carrefour, franchit un trottoir traversant ou une piste cyclable ne perdra désormais plus sa priorité vis-à-vis des autres automobilistes. Bien entendu, les règles de priorité existantes à l'égard des piétons et des cyclistes restent maintenues.

Plus d'informations (dépliant, texte de presse, photos, vidéos, texte de l'Arrêté Royal) sur le site :

<http://www.bivv.be/main/Actualiteit/InHetNieuws/NieuwsDetail.shtml?detail=722538916&language=fr>

Op 1 maart 2007 veranderen de regels betreffende de voorrang van rechts.

De regel die bepaalt dat de bestuurder die voorrang heeft, zijn voorrang verliest wanneer hij zijn voertuig opnieuw in beweging brengt na gestopt te hebben wordt afgeschaft.

De verplichting om «op regelmatige wijze» van rechts te komen en aldus van voorrang van rechts te kunnen genieten wordt geschrapt. Er wordt expliciet bepaald dat de bestuurder die uit een verboden rijrichting komt geen voorrang van rechts heeft.

Fietsers die uit een straat komen met beperkt éénrichtingsverkeer, aangegeven met het onderbord M2, genieten uiteraard voorrang van rechts daar zij niet uit een voor hen verboden rijrichting komen. Hetzelfde geldt voor bestuurders van tweewielige bromfietsen klasse A die uit een straat komen met beperkt éénrichtingsverkeer, aangegeven met het onderbord M3.

Wie op een kruispunt een doorlopend trottoir of een fietspad overschrijdt zal voortaan zijn voorrang van rechts ten aanzien van andere automobilisten niet meer verliezen. Met dien verstande dat de bestaande voorrangsregels ten opzichte van voetgangers en fietsers gevrijwaard blijven.

Meer informatie (perstekst, folder, foto's, video's en Koninklijk Besluit) is te vinden op de webstek:

<http://www.bivv.be/main/Actualiteit/InHetNieuws/NieuwsDetail.shtml?detail=722538916&language=nl>

Source Dominique Bataille, SCIC.DG;  
Bruno Neskens, SCIC.O2

## Open competition in the field of communication and information

DG COMM has the pleasure of announcing that the open competitions in the field of Information, Communication and Media (AD5 grade) and in the field of Communication and Information (AST3 grade) have been published on February 28 on the EPSO site ([http://europa.eu/epso/index\\_en.htm](http://europa.eu/epso/index_en.htm))

This event is doubly historic:

1. it is the first time that a competition in the field of the communication has been organised and
2. it is the first EUR 27 competition (organised in 3 languages).

The competition has been organised in the framework of the Action Plan to improve communicating Europe by the Commission adopted by the Commission on 20 July 2005.

The objective for the European institutions is to constitute a reserve list of 125 candidates for the AD5 grade and 110 for the AST3 grade. The availability of the reserve lists is foreseen for the first quarter of 2008.

The initial tests will be organised using a new computer based testing tool in all 27 member states. The test centers will be open for 3 to 4 weeks providing for a large flexibility for the candidates to choose their test date and time. The candidates will not get the same questions but questions of a similar level of difficulty (generated at random from EPSO central data base with test items, which at present contain around 5000 questions in verbal and numerical reasoning as well as EU knowledge).

Registration deadline: 28 March 2007

Source ICN

## Acting Heads of Interpretation Units



Vytautas VAISNORAS



Marjana RUPNIK



Peter MIFSUD



Ekaterina DRAGANOVA



Maria KOROKNAI

The following appointments to acting Head of Unit posts have been approved by Mr. Benedetti with effect from 1st February...

**Mr. Vytautas VAISNORAS**, acting Head of Unit SCIC/A/3 Lithuanian interpretation

**Ms. Marjana RUPNIK**, acting Head of Unit SCIC/A/16, Slovenian interpretation

**Mr. Peter MIFSUD**, acting Head of Unit SCIC/A/19, Maltese interpretation

**Ms. Ekaterina DRAGANOVA**, acting Head of Unit SCIC/A/21, Bulgarian interpretation

**Ms. Maria KOROKNAI**, acting Head of Unit SCIC/A/22 Romanian interpretation

Source Chris Curran, SCIC.B3, Human Resources and General Administration

## 2006 Certification has been launched...

The 2006 certification exercise is to allow AST function group officials to be appointed AD function group officials ...

With the introduction of the new staff regulations and the new career system, the procedures for attestation and certification were introduced in 2005.

The attestation procedure is intended to offer C\* and D\* officials who were already in service before 1 May 2004 a chance to be promoted beyond grades AST7 and AST5 respectively. This yearly procedure replaces the internal competitions which were organised under the previous staff regulations.

The certification procedure allows officials – members of the Assistant-s' (AST) function group without career restriction (ex-B\* career stream, up to AST11) and in grades 5 upwards – to be appointed to an AD job and be-

come members of the Administrator-s' (AD) function group provided that they have been selected to take part in, and have successfully completed, a compulsory training programme.

The 2006 certification exercise was launched today, 5 February.

For further information, please read :  
IMPLEMENTING RULES (Administrative Notice N° 09-2007)

CALL FOR APPLICATIONS (Administrative Notice N° 10-2007)

All officials concerned by this procedure will be informed by email.

Deadline for submitting applications is 21st February!

Source Chris Curran, SCIC.B3,  
Human Resources and General  
Administration

## !! Your security !! 22222

New security telephone number in all the Brussels Commission buildings...

Note that the "NEW SECURITY TELEPHONE NUMBER IN ALL THE BRUSSELS COMMISSION BUILDINGS is 22222".

"SOS 22222" replaces the 52222 (safety) and 88888 (security) numbers.

Please stick the pictogram you received on your telephone (superimpose it on the old one with the old emergency numbers). If you did not yet receive your pictogram, do ask your usher, he is in charge of the distribution of it. Read also this information under staff matters/working environment.

Source Stella Clarke, SCIC B.3, Human Resources and General Administration

## Numéros utiles SCIC

Voici un rappel de la situation de certains numéros d'appel abrégés utiles pour les membres du SCIC

### 54321 : Helpdesk SCIC Conférences (Assistance logistique et technique)

Pour toute question concernant le fonctionnement des installations d'interprétation ou tout besoin logistique concernant les salles de réunion. En cas de dysfonctionnement, il est important d'appeler ce numéro dès l'apparition d'un problème technique concernant les installations d'interprétation et non pas le mentionner seulement dans le rapport de séance.

### 59708 : Helpdesk SCIC Informatique (IRM)

Pour tout problème informatique concernant les PC fixes ou portables, y compris dans les salles de réunion. Tous les appels sont enregistrés.

### 55555 : Dispatching OIB

Pour tout problème concernant les bâtiments, donc aussi le conditionnement d'air. Il est important de toujours téléphoner à ce numéro dès que le problème survient, même si les interventions tendent à durer et/ou si elles sont inefficaces : tous les appels sont enregistrés, cela permet de tenir des statistiques. Il est utile de mentionner l'existence du problème dans le RdS de la réunion (mais uniquement après appel du 55555)

### 22222 : Numéro de secours de la Direction Sécurité

Pour tout sujet concernant d'une part la sécurité et l'hygiène au travail (USHT) et d'autre part la sécurité des personnes (DS)

(Ces informations seront affichées dans les couloirs des cabines d'interprétation)

Source Didier Hespel, Chef d'Unité SCIC. D.2,  
Gestion des infrastructures de réunion

## DM24: preparing to *archive for our move*

... *the best advice on how to deal with your archives*



As announced in last month's article regarding the move from DM24 to C107, Sue Currie and her team are at your service to give you the best advice on how to deal with your archives.

From the following website (<http://www.cc.cec/home/dgserv/sg/i/edomec/index.cfm?lang=en&page=ahoib>), users can access either the Historical Archives (HA) website itself, or access the procedures/forms required for transferring files to the HA.

*Please contact your Document Managing Officer (DMO) (Sue Currie) or the Deputy DMO (Dominique Bataille-Godichal) before starting in order to be as efficient as possible!*

In addition, you may also want to read the SCIC information fact sheet.

Happy archiving!!

Source Sue Currie, SCIC.DG

## Publication of interpreter competitions

EPSO have now informed us that the interpretation competitions requested by the institutions for the Czech, Latvian, Slovak and Slovene languages are scheduled for publication on 20 February. Details of the competition references and planned deadline for applications can be found below. These competitions are the first in a new round of EU-10 competitions and are being published at levels AD5 and AD7, depending on candidates' level of experience and number of languages. Competitions for the other five EU-10 languages will follow in two phases with competitions for three of them expected to be published at the end of this year and the remaining two in the second half of 2008.

Please note that the following notice for the open competitions:

EPSO/AD/86/07 (level AD5) - conference interpreters(CS)

EPSO/AD/87/07 (level AD7) - conference interpreters(CS)

EPSO/AD/88/07 (level AD5) - conference interpreters(LV)

EPSO/AD/89/07 (level AD7) - conference interpreters(LV)

EPSO/AD/90/07 (level AD5) - conference interpreters(SK)

EPSO/AD/91/07 (level AD7) - conference interpreters(SK)

EPSO/AD/92/07 (level AD5) - conference interpreters(SL)

EPSO/AD/93/07 (level AD7) - conference interpreters(SL)

will be published in the Official Journal C 36 A dated 20 February 2007.

The closing date for registration on line and for sending the full application by post is 22 March 2007.

**Source Chris Curran (SCIC B3)**

## Chemicals Agency in Helsinki

DG Enterprise and Industry is actively preparing for the establishment of the new Chemicals Agency in Helsinki (ECHA) on 1 June 2007.

The first recruits will be 39 Commission officials to be seconded in the interests of the service to ECHA for a period of up to 18 months, in accordance with Articles 37 & 38 of the Staff Regulations.

Directorates-General that agree to second officials to ECHA in the interests of the service will be compensated for the temporary loss of the official by the allocation of a replacement post for the duration of the secondment. DG Admin has confirmed that this replacement post can either be filled in the normal way or used by the DG for AT2B recruitment for the duration of the secondment.

The deadline for these jobs is very short: Tuesday, 13 February.

If you have any questions, please feel free to contact Bruno Pagnell or his colleagues in the REACH team, Geert Dancet and Alistair Macphail.

**Source Chris Curran, SCIC.B3,  
Personnel et Administration générale**

## Call for expressions of interest for Temporary Agents at the European Chemicals Agency Helsinki

The Commission has launched its recruitment campaign for the first staff of the ECHA in Helsinki.

A call for expressions of interest for temporary agents to staff the Agency in its first years of operation was published on 15 February 2007 on the EPSO web site.

[http://www.europa.eu.int/epso/non\\_permanent\\_posts/temp\\_staff\\_echa\\_en.htm](http://www.europa.eu.int/epso/non_permanent_posts/temp_staff_echa_en.htm)

It covers 8 job profiles for scientific, legal, ICT and administrative staff.

The closing date for the submission of applications is 15 March 2007. Applications are accepted only via the EPSO on-line application system.

In this phase of the temporary agent recruitment campaign we are looking for experienced specialists capable of pioneering the set-up and initial operation of the Agency's administrative and operational systems and procedures. Further operational and administrative profiles, some of which will be open to less qualified and experienced candidates, will be published in a second phase this summer.

The post of Executive Director was published on 9 February 2007.

[http://www.ec.europa.eu/enterprise/reach/ed\\_publication\\_en.htm](http://www.ec.europa.eu/enterprise/reach/ed_publication_en.htm)

The Commission is looking for candidates with the capacity to lead a major EU regulatory agency in its key early years and steer it through the scientific, technical and organisational challenges of establishing a complex regulatory process in a field that is politically sensitive and crucial to human health, the environment, economic competitiveness and innovation. Candidates should combine solid management experience with leadership in relevant scientific or technical fields.

The closing date for submission of applications is 23 March 2007.

The European Chemicals Agency (ECHA) is the cornerstone of REACH, a new regulatory framework for chemical substances in the European Union. ECHA will be established in Helsinki, Finland, with the entry into force of the REACH Regulation on 1 June 2007. ECHA will be responsible for managing technical, scientific and administrative aspects of REACH, and ensuring consistency in its application. It will provide the Member States and the EU institutions with high quality scientific and technical advice on chemicals issues.

You will find more information about REACH and the REACH Regulation on the REACH web pages of the Commission services concerned (Directorate General for Enterprise and Industry, Directorate General for the Environment, Joint Research Centres/European Chemicals Bureau):

[http://www.ec.europa.eu/enterprise/reach/index\\_en.htm](http://www.ec.europa.eu/enterprise/reach/index_en.htm)

<http://www.ec.europa.eu/environment/chemicals/reach.htm>

<http://ecb.jrc.it/reach/>

**Source Chris Curran, SCIC.B3,  
Personnel et Administration générale**



## Troïka versus trio

Recent experience has shown that some confusion has set in about "things which come in threes" in Council....so we feel it might be appropriate to clarify what appears to be the state of play:

### 1. There is the EU TROIKA...(Source EC- EUROPA website)

Please note that it has changed composition a few years back now...

The "Troika" represents the European Union in external relations that fall within the scope of the common foreign and security policy (CFSP).

Since the Treaty of Amsterdam, the Troika has brought together:

the Foreign Affairs Minister of the Member State holding the Presidency of the Council of the European Union;

the Secretary-General/High Representative for the common foreign and security policy;

the European Commissioner in charge of external relations and European neighbourhood policy.

The Presidency can also be assisted, where necessary, by the representatives of the future Presidency (Article 18 of the Treaty on European Union).

...and now

### 2. There is the TRIO Presidency...with an 18 month joint programme:

[http://www.eu2007.de/en/The\\_Council\\_Presidency/trio/index.html](http://www.eu2007.de/en/The_Council_Presidency/trio/index.html)

We hope this is helpful in case any of you were wondering....

Source Barbara Block (SCIC A.5) and Anne Ford (SCIC A.9)



## Reclaim or browse ... in CCAB 6/38 ex-computer room

Dear colleagues,

The former computer room on the 6th floor of the CCAB has now been converted into offices for two of the new acting heads of unit. As a result, we have two cardboard boxes containing an eclectic selection of bric-à-brac and papers, including a video "Caravaca de la Cruz Año Santo 2003", the entire German telephone directory 1998 version on CD-Rom and a large number of computer diskettes. If you would like to reclaim any items or simply come and browse to see if there is anything worth selling on e-bay, the boxes are in the department III/IV secretariat (Office CCAB 6/38).

Source Terry Clough, SCIC A.IV

## Etudiante ULB à la DG SCIC



Nous accueillons à partir du mois de février Barbara Piazzini, une étudiante en dernière année de psychologie à l'ULB qui, en vue de son travail de fin d'études, se penche sur l'impact psychologique des facteurs de stress pour l'interprète ainsi que les éléments environnants qui peuvent engendrer ou accroître ce stress. Pour ce faire, elle va procéder par différentes méthodes (observation, interviews, questionnaires, etc.). Il se pourrait donc que vous la voyiez autour de vous ou que vous fassiez accoster pour répondre à quelques questions. Il va de soi que votre participation éventuelle est sur base purement volontaire.

Je tiens à préciser que le rôle de la DG SCIC s'est limité à faciliter le contact avec les interprètes, que le travail de Barbara Piazzini n'a été ni inspiré, ni commandé par la DG et qu'il n'aura aucune incidence sur les discussions en cours au sein du service.

A celles et ceux qui accepteront de l'aider dans ses travaux, un grand merci d'avance.

Source Didier Hespel, SCIC.D2, Management of Meeting Infrastructures

## SCIC Conferences

### Forthcoming conferences organised by D/1 - Conference Organisation

DG	Conférence	Lieu	Du...	Au...	Part.
RTD	Today is the future	Bruxelles-	7-mars	8-mars	
TAXUD	Taxation for sustainable development	Bruxelles-CHAR	19-mars	20-mars	400
COMM	Youth Summit	Rome-Italie	24-mars	25-mars	250
MARKT	Increasing Financial Capability	Bruxelles-CHAR	28-mars	28-mars	400
RTD	Da Vinci	Bruxelles-	9-avr	9-avr	
RTD	Perspectives for Food 2030	Bruxelles-CHAR	17-avr	18-avr	120
TREN	Journée européenne de la sécurité routière	Bruxelles-CHAR	27-avr	27-avr	400

Source Marylene Atienza Alonso (D1 - Conference Organisation)

## MEDATA Real Time

MEDATA Real Time has been operational since Monday 22.01.2007 and replaces the old MEDATA application used since Autumn 1997.

The most important improvements are related to better real time behaviour achieved by removing the batch updates of the old system. All users can now see the current collection of meeting documents immediately after modifications made by the document providers instead of waiting for several hours. The MEDATA team can now also provide documentation for last-minute meetings (those created during the day) much more rapidly.

The list of agendas and other documents of previous meetings (if such documents exist) appears on the screen so that the user can select a set of documents without any need to scan the meetings one by one. The number of such "old" meetings is limited to 12 or going back three years.

The new page contains the same documents and other sections as the previous one, but the collection of links has increased by two new items: the LITHOS application and IATE pages are now also accessible from MEDATA.

Source Heikki Laaksonen, SCIC.B1, IRM

## User Perception of IT in the Commission

In its efforts to constantly improve on the services it offers DG DIGIT is undertaking a study on how IT-services are perceived by users in the Commission. You will find below the link to an anonymous questionnaire.

The purpose of this questionnaire is to obtain information from you as a Commission IT user in order to identify strengths and weaknesses in IT throughout the Commission's services. The questionnaire is accessible to all Commission IT users

According to our previous experience a maximum of 500 users can use this application simultaneously. Should you encounter any problem, please try again later.

The questionnaire will remain available until 30 March 2007.

<http://ec.europa.eu/yourvoice/ipm/forms/dispatch?form=digitIT&lang=en>

Source Gerald TAYENNE (DIGIT)

## Sitereeing

**Le carburant le moins cher chez vous**<http://www.carbu.be>

Comment trouver la pompe à essence la moins chère dans votre région....

Ce site interactif effectue quotidiennement le relevé des prix des pompes à essence et permet aux internautes de choisir la pompe la moins chère la plus proche de chez eux.

Les informations sur le site sont relevées par des contributeurs particuliers ou propriétaires de stations-service....

**Source Jean-Luc Peysen (SCIC.02)**

**It's all about us...**

Who are we? How do we work? Where do we work? How are we financed? Staff figures....



Do you remember all those questions regarding the people who work for the European Commission that you have been asked by friends and relatives, but never quite knew how to reply to? Answers can now be found on the European Commission civil service portal.

See [http://ec.europa.eu/civil\\_service/index\\_en.htm](http://ec.europa.eu/civil_service/index_en.htm) and feel free to forward and tell others about how we work and what we do and where.

**Source Bruno Neskens, SCIC.02, Communication & Information**

**Orban website launched on EUROPA**

*Multilingualism policy now accessible in many languages*

Dear Colleagues,

I am pleased to inform you that SCIC Webteam today has launched the website for Commissioner Orban on EUROPA in 23 languages.



See:

[http://ec.europa.eu/commission\\_barroso/orban/index\\_en.htm](http://ec.europa.eu/commission_barroso/orban/index_en.htm)

The site was built in record time (22 working days), and is almost complete: just a few photos are missing but they will be added over the next few days, and agenda and news items will be updated.

I should like to thank the SCIC Webteam, and in particular Jean-Luc Peysen, who was our main man on design and construction and photography, for their focus and dedication to this task, and to thank the colleagues from DGT's Web Translation unit who worked to very tight deadlines to get it all ready. Thanks also to the colleagues from SCIC A who performed the final check of the translations.

**Source Ian Andersen (SCIC 02)**

## Culture / Events

**"About Time II" - again**

Fans, friends and music lovers!

Just a date for your diaries. On the 21st April I will be playing a new repertoire with the band, About Time II, at the Rideau Rouge in Lasne. It's a great place; check out the site [www.lerideaurouge.be](http://www.lerideaurouge.be) Details including transport arrangements etc. to follow. If there's enough interest we could do fancy dress and rent a London bus - watch this space!

Love you all!

Source Alexander Smith, SCIC A.9, English interpretation unit

**Journée Internationale de la Femme : le 8 mars 2007**

Veillez trouver ci-joint le lien vers le programme, l'affiche et autres informations utiles dans le cadre de la conférence du 8 mars à l'occasion de la Journée internationale de la femme.

[http://www.cc.cec/pers\\_admin/equal\\_opp/women\\_day/2007\\_fr.html](http://www.cc.cec/pers_admin/equal_opp/women_day/2007_fr.html)

Nous espérons vous retrouver nombreux/ses lors de cette conférence

Cordialement

*Maria Etelevina del Molino del Molino*

*Secrétariat "Egalité des chances et Non-discrimination"*

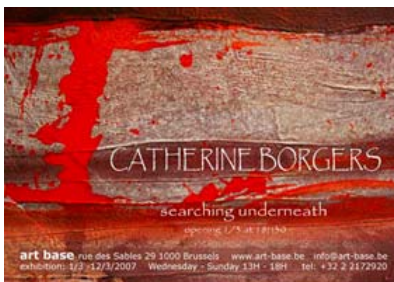
Source Maria Etelevina del Molino del Molino, ADMIN.B04

**"Searching Underneath"****exhibition opening**

Catherine Borgers approaches painting in an experimental manner.

"I am always searching for what 'lies underneath', for what one discovers when one scrapes off the surface. I am constantly trying out new materials. Colours vibrate differently with each of them."

After wax, then glue, she now uses plaster, tracing paper and varnish.



Exploring the various degrees of depth of these textures on a two-dimensional surface, Borgers works in a playful way with her tools: "I am letting my guts take over, hoping that the result will resonate in others, touching people's own guts and emotions."

Where: art base, rue des Sables 29, 1000 Brussels

When: 1st till 12th March 2007

Website: [www.art-base.be](http://www.art-base.be)

Telephone: +32 2 217 29 20

E-mail: [info@art-base.be](mailto:info@art-base.be)

Source Source: Frans De Clercq, (ACI - A15 NL)

## brusselseurope2007 - *How do you think SCIC should participate?*

Big street party in Brussels on 21 July to celebrate 50 years of Treaty of Rome - let's have your ideas!

Belgian National Day will be celebrated with an extra bang this year, adding to the national festivities a series of stands and events to celebrate the 50 years of the Treaty.

<http://www.sibp.be/parc/fr/accueilparc.htm>

All Commission DGs have been asked to contribute to a EuroVillage in the Brussels Park (in front of the Royal Palace). What do you think SCIC should do? What should be our contribution? Please send your ideas to Bruno Neskens or Rose Marie Guilfoyle by 19 February 2007.

For the complete programme for the year of celebrating the 50 years of Europe in Brussels, please see the pages the Brussels Tourist office and MICE (Meetings, Incentives, Conferences, Exhibitions & Events) have drawn together.

<http://www.brusselseurope2007.be/>

Source Ian Andersen, (SCIC O2);  
Willy Helin, Head of Commission Representation in Belgium



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**Editor:**  
Ian Andersen.  
Phone: 54024.



**Assistant Editor:**  
Bruno Neskens.



**Layout, and photo:**  
Jean-Luc Peysen

**How much wood would a woodchuck chuck if a woodchuck could chuck a wood ? If a woodchuck could chuck wood a woodchuck would chuck as much wood as a woodchuck could chuck....**

**- Woody Woodpecker (??) -**

**Send contributions to:**  
[Ian.Andersen@ec.europa.eu](mailto:Ian.Andersen@ec.europa.eu)

Please put « Contribution SN » in the subject line and indicate source  
indiquer dans "subject": Contribution SN et indiquer la source

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